

Appl. No. 10/525,128
Amdt. dated January 4, 2007
Reply to Office Action of October 10, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Set forth below is a new paragraph 0002 to correct the wordings so that in line 3 the word "patients" is replaced by the word —patients—.

[0002] With patients suffering from pulmonary diseases, aerosols are often used for therapy. However, special difficulties arise with the utilization of aerosols with [[patients]] patients receiving artificial respiration. Either compressed-air operated nozzle atomizers or atomizers producing aerosols continuously, such as, e.g., ultrasound atomizers or piezoelectric atomizers are used. The nozzle atomizers are normally placed in the common end segment for inspiration and expiration of the artificial respiration hoses, shortly before the tube barrel and are controlled via the artificial respirator, so that they are active only during inspiration. An atomizer is, however, active until the end of inspiration, so that in the overall hose system distal gas enriched with aerosol is present in the atomizer so that the dead-space volume is also provided with aerosol. Thus, it is possible as a rule to place a bacterial filter between the inspiration or expiration legs and the tube barrel, playing also a role in humidifying the respiratory tracts. The heavy humidification of the non-utilized gas column (dead space volume), mostly with large aerosol particles, causes the filter to become filled with liquid and thus loses its antibacterial effect on the one hand, while, on the other hand, the resistance of the filter increases so much that it closes up.